GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1887
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2002
HPCL JOINT VENTURE WITH MRPL .
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to enquire into charges that Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited management has deliberately manipulated its role in the management of MRPL;

(b) if so, whether the joint venture partner has brought to the notice of the Government on frequent occasions that they are not getting civil cooperation from the top management of the HPCL;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to take any steps to ensure that public sector oil companies like HPCL performed their role and implemented the Government policy with due sincerity and maturity;

(d) if not, the reasons for ignoring the repeated pleas of the management of MRPL that they faced a hostile partner in the concerned PSU; and

(e) the details of the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) to (e) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and A.V. Birla group (ABG) are co-promoters of Mangalore Refinery & Petrochemicals Limited (MRPL). ABG had represented to this Ministry about the problems being faced by MRPL. ABG had also expressed its intention to exit from MRPL. Accordingly, the offer of ABG to sell its stake in MRPL was considered by HPCL. Presently there is a proposal for restructuring of MRPL through the efforts of M/s Lazard India Limited.